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August 6, 2003

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRIOR ART STATEMENT

Enclosed is the application of Garth H. Bulgrien for United States Letters Patent for a SMOOTHLY SHIFTING MULTISPEED TRANSMISSION.

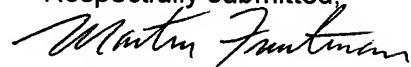
The prior art listed below, copies of which are enclosed, is the closest prior art of which I am aware.

5,036,718	8/6/91	Bulgrien
6,190,280	2/20/01	Horsch

Bulgrien discloses a multispeed transmission that requires simultaneous changeovers in multiple sections of the transmission for shifting between adjacent gears.

Horsch discloses a multispeed transmission that uses single "clutch swaps" for all shifts between adjacent gears, but has uneven gear ratio steps.

Respectfully submitted,



Martin Fruitman
Attorney of Record
Reg. No. 26,890

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Substitute for form 1449/PTQ

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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Complete if Known

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Garth H. Bulgrien
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.² Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).³ See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.⁴ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).⁵ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.⁶ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.⁷ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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